

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, February 24, 2022

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Arrest Made in Fatal Stabbing in Talmadge

San Diego – On February 20, 2022, at approximately 7:00 p.m., the San Diego Police Communications Center received a report of a stabbing in the west alley of 4500 Altadena Avenue in the Talmadge neighborhood.

Patrol officers from Mid-City Division responded and located a male who had been stabbed sitting in his vehicle. The male was transported to a local hospital with life threatening injuries. Mid-City investigators responded to the scene.

Based on the preliminary investigation, it appears there was a verbal altercation in the alley. During that altercation, the suspect suddenly struck the victim once in the chest with an unknown stabbing instrument. The suspect fled the scene.

Because the victim's injuries were so serious, on February 21, 2022, the San Diego Police Homicide Unit began working with Mid-City investigators to solve the case. The suspect was identified as Lee Bender, described as a 50-year-old man. Detectives began working to locate Bender.

On February 23, 2022, at approximately 2:00 p.m., Lee Bender was arrested near 300 North 2nd Street in El Cajon. He was booked into jail for attempted murder.

On February 24, 2022, the victim died from his injuries. He is described as a 30-year-old Hispanic male. He has been identified, but his name is not being released at this time. Detectives are working to change Bender's charge to murder.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to call the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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